

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 09221 171406Z

43

ACTION NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6530

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 9221

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC

SUBJECT: REPATRIATION OF US CITIZENS TORHAN AND KOPP

REF: CAIRO 9192

1. VINCENT TORHAN PLANNING DEPART CAIRO SEPTEMBER 21 ON TWA 841 AT 0735 ARRIVING JFK 1645. HE WILL IMMEDIATELY PROCEED BY HELICOPTER TO NEWARK FOR REUNION WITH FAMILY. DEPARTMENT PLEASE ADVISE TORHAN FAMILY. TORHAN HAS OWN FUNDS AND DOES NOT REQUIRE MEDICAL ATTENDANT ACCORDING TO NAMRU DOCTORS. NAMRU DOCTOR LAUGHLIN, WHO EXAMINED BOTH MEN WILL, HOWEVER, BE ON SAME FLIGHT SINCE HE IS RETURNING TO NEW YORK ON PRIVATE BUSINESS.

2. EMBASSY HAD MADE ARRANGEMENTS FOR ROBERT KOPP, ACCOMPANIED BY EMBASSY NURSE MS. MILLIE WALCOTT, TO DEPART CAIRO SEPTEMBER 19 ON TWA 841 AT 0735 ARRIVING FJK 1645. TWA RESERVED TWO SINGLE HOTEL ROOMS AT FJK, AND THEY WERE TO PROCEED SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 TO SAN FRANCISCO ON TWA 41 DEPARTING FJK AT 1100 ARRIVING SAN FRANCISCO 1352. BOTH WERE TO TRAVEL FIRST CLASS. THESE ARRANGEMENTS MADE ON BASIS OF:

A. KOPP'S DESIRE FOR EARLIEST POSSIBLE REPATRIATION;

B. NAMRU DOCTORS' RECOMMENDATION THAT KOPP BE ACCOMPANIED BY MEDICAL ATTENDANT THROUGH TO SAN FRANCISCO; AND

C. NAMRU DOCTORS' PREFERENCE THAT KOPP TRAVEL FIRST CLASS.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 CAIRO 09221 171406Z

3. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT KOPP WOULD HAVE TO SIGN REPATRIATION LOAN AGREEMENT TO REPAY AMOUNT REQUIRED FOR HIS FIRST CLASS TICKET (LE480.20 OR DOLS 813.94) AND ROUND-TRIP TICKET FOR MS. WALCOTT, FIRST CLASS CAIRO/SAN FRANCISCO AND ECONOMY SAN FRANCISCO/CAIRO (LE827.10 OR DOLS 1,401.93). KOPP, HOWEVER, DOES NOT HAVE ANY MONEY OR JOB PROSPECT, NOR DOES HE BELIEVE FAMILY COULD REIMBURSE USG FOR THIS AMOUNT OF MONEY, INSTEAD, HE WOULD PREFER TO DELAY DEPARTURE AND GO ECONOMY CLASS ON SUNDAY WITH TORHAN AND DOCTOR LAUGHLIN. DR. LAUGHLIN IS AGREEABLE TO THIS ALTERNATE PROPOSAL AND BELIEVES HE CAN HANDLE ANY LIKELY CONTINGENCY, ALTHOUGH HE WOULD HAVE PREFERRED KOPP GO FIRST CLASS. (WE WILL INFORM LOCAL TWA MANAGER OF CIRCUMSTANCES AND REQUEST THAT HE ADVISE FLIGHT CREW TO GIVE SPECIAL ATTENTION TO GROUP.) WE ASSUME KOPP WILL BE MET IN NEW YORK BY HEW REPRESENTATIVE WHO WILL ASSIST WITH OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS AND CAN ACCOMPANY KOPP TO SAN FRANCISCO NEXT DAY. DOCTORS RECOMMEND KOPP NOT CONTINUE TO SAN FRANCISCO SAME DAY. SCA/MUSIC TEL WITH DETAILS WILL FOLLOW.

4. WHILE WE WOULD HAVE PREFERRED ORIGINAL PLAN FOR KOPP TO TRAVEL ON FRIDAY, WE UNDERSTAND HIS RELUCTANCE TO ASSUME DEBT OF OVER DOLS 2,000. THUS, UNLESS DEPARTMENT BELIEVES THAT EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THIS CASE NECESITATE SPECIAL TREATMENT AND IT IS ABLE TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR KOPP'S FIRST CLASS TRAVEL AND EMBASSY NURSE'S TRAVEL, WE WILL PROCEED WITH PLAN OUTLINED PARA 1 TO HAVE BOTH TORHAN AND KOPP TRAVEL ECONOMY CLASS WITH DR. LAUGHLIN ON SEPTEMBER 21, WITH HEW PICKING KOPP UP FOR NY-SAN FRANCISCO LEG. WE RECOGNIZE SEPTEMBER 21 IS WEEKEND, BUT BELIEVE SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES OF THIS CASE WARRANT HEW MAKING EXCEPTION TO IS NORMAL PRACTISE OF OFFERING FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE ONLY ON WEEKDAYS. PLEASE CONFIRM THAT HEW WILL MEET KOPP AT JFK ON SUNDAY AFTERNOON AND ASSIST HIM FROM THERE ON.
EILTS

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